

TIP OF THE

Jan. 9, 2003

SWORD

Incirlik Air Base, Turkey



Stay vigilant

AT/FP measures remain critical in new year

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Steady, steady

During day nine of the youth center's survivor challenge, (Left to right) Elizabeth Robinson, 13, works with teammates Monica Immel and Holland Lewis in the escape from skate park section of the day's obstacle course. Teams had to create a tool using twigs and string to retrieve the key from outside the fence to unlock themselves and proceed to the next event. (Photo by Senior Airman James Seymore)

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On the cover:

Tech. Sgt. Scott McCann, 39th Security Forces Squadron military working dog handler, and his working dog, Jag, inspect a vehicle at the main gate as part of Incirlik's antiterrorism and force protection precautions. See related article, Page 3. (Photo by Airman 1st Class Dallas Edwards)

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Photo by Staff Sgt. Jeremy Tredway
Salep is a thick, hot beverage commonly served in Turkey during colder months. See related article, Page 9.

The 39th Air Base Group Public Affairs staff prepares all editorial content in the Tip of the Sword. The 39th ABG Public Affairs Office (Unit 7090, Box 135, APO AE 09824-5153) is located in Building 833, Room 274.
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Security measures help guarantee safety

By 1st Lt. Alan McCracken
39th Security Force Squadron

Recently, several enhanced force protection measures were instituted across U.S. Air Forces in Europe to comply with command guidance and help guarantee the safety of the Incirlik community and the command as a whole.

The measures may cause delays and inconveniences and add to workloads across the installation, but they greatly enhance security measures already in place and heightens Incirlik's overall security posture.

The following information is provided to help educate the community on recent changes and clarify general procedures:

- ♦ Traffic delays at the gate – Expect traffic delays at the main gate due to K-9 searches and additional Turkish Air Force security procedures. These measures ensure that only authorized people enter the installation and vehicles and packages are cleared appropriately. Please plan ahead and allow enough time to get to work or make curfew. Also, be cooperative with the main gate Turkish Air Force and security forces people; they're simply doing their job, and it's not an easy one.

- ♦ Expect 100 percent ID checks – Present military or civilian ID and gate pass at the main gate when exiting and entering the installation. ID cards must also be presented when entering all base facilities. Have documents ready and safeguard them at all times. Remember, when lost, these items may make it easier for unauthorized individuals to enter Incirlik.

- ♦ Individual Protective Measures – Turkey is not the United States and people should dress to blend in and observe travel restrictions, which are in place for personal safety. People should read and comply with battle staff directive procedures. BSDs are available on the source at <http://source/39CES/Readiness/Readiness.htm>.

- ♦ Parking in the alley – Parking in the alley is prohibited on the main thoroughfare. Periodic checks of this area are conducted and the license plate numbers of violators are documented, appear in the security forces blotter and are reported to the violator's commander.

- ♦ Trips and tours – Follow the guidelines outlined in the most recent BSD for specific details. These guidelines change frequently.

- ♦ Eagle Eyes program – The program provides a communication avenue for reporting suspicious activity. People who observe sus-

picious people or activities should report it to the law enforcement desk at 6-3200 or Office of Special Investigation detachment at 6-6488

- ♦ Antiterrorism representative – People who don't know who their unit representative should call the base force protection office at 6-6657.

Although this list does not include all security measures in place, it does help clarify recent changes.

Keep in mind that security measures enhance the safety and security of Incirlik families while stationed in Turkey. Please be patient with security people, abide by the mandated guidelines and report suspicious activity to the proper authorities.

Incirlik security measures

The following list highlights several new and ongoing procedures:

- ♦ Expect 100 percent ID checks
- ♦ Individual Protective Measures
- ♦ No parking in the alley
- ♦ Constraints on trips and tours
- ♦ Eagle Eyes program
- ♦ Antiterrorism representative

New law protects servicemembers

By Army Sgt. 1st Class Doug Sample
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — A new law replacing the Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act of 1940 provides servicemembers greater protections to handle personal financial and legal obligations, officials said.

President Bush signed the Service Members' Civil Relief Act into law Dec. 19.

"The focus of the (new act) is the same as under the SSCRA: To provide protections to servicemembers who have difficulty meeting their personal financial and legal obligations because of their military service," said Lt. Col. Patrick Lindemann, deputy director for legal policy in the office of the undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness.

This is significant, because it clarifies and updates SSCRA provisions and adds some protections.

"Servicemembers on long-term deployments, or called to active duty, should not have to worry about their families in their absence being evicted from their quarters without sufficient legal protections, or that they are paying on a leased car or apartment that they can't use, or about civil legal proceedings they can't attend because of their deployment," he said.

"These are some of the situations the SCRA covers so that servicemembers are able to devote their energies to the military mission and the defense needs of the nation, and not on civil matters waiting

for them at home," he said.

An automatic 90-day stay of civil proceedings upon application by the servicemember is what Colonel Lindemann called "a significant change" in the new act. This applies to all judicial and administrative hearings. Previously, stays were discretionary with the courts.

The new relief act also makes it clear the 6-percent limitation on interest rates for pre-service debts requires a reduction in monthly payments, and any interest in excess of 6 percent is forgiven, not deferred, Colonel Lindemann said.

The SCRA also expanded the protection against eviction. Under the SSCRA, servicemembers and their family who entered into a lease for \$1,200 or less could not be evicted without a court order. This amount is increased to \$2,400 and added an annual inflation adjustment. For 2004, the maximum will be \$2,465, significantly increasing the number of servicemembers entitled to this protection, Colonel Lindemann said.

The new relief act also gives the servicemember who has received permanent change-of-station orders or who is being deployed for 90 days or more the right to terminate a housing lease with 30 days' written notice. Before, servicemembers could be required to pay for housing they were unable to occupy.

One of the more significant new provisions is an added protection for motor-vehicle leases. Any active-duty servicemember who has received PCS orders outside the continental United States, or who is being deployed for 180 days or more, may terminate a motor-vehicle lease. The law prohibits early termination charges.

DOD stops Anthrax vaccinations

By Staff Sgt. Elaine Aviles
39th Air Base Group Public Affairs

Defense officials and lawyers with the Justice Department are examining a decision handed down by a federal judge in Washington Dec. 22 ordering the Department of Defense to stop anthrax vaccinations for military people without their consent, Pentagon officials said.

The decision arose from an ongoing court case. Although the ruling doesn't ask for a program cessation, the DOD is proceeding cautiously.

"The lawyers are examining it," said Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld. "And at the appropriate time, they will be making a recommendation as to the way forward."

Despite the decision, officials are quick to point out that their confidence in the vaccine hasn't wavered.

"This drug that we're using, the vaccine has been around for 40 years," said Gen. Richard Myers, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. "It is not experimental. It's approved by the FDA (Food and Drug Administration)."

Anthrax is still a worry in many parts of the world, General Myers said.

"The one thing you can do to protect people is this vaccine," he said. "From a military standpoint, I think it's very important we have this capability to protect our troops and enable them to do their job."

"A federal ruling can't change scientific fact," added Maj. (Dr.) W.M. "Sparky" Matthews, 39th Medical Squadron chief of aeromedical services. "The vaccine is safe and effective."

"We've vaccinated more than 6,000 DOD

(Department of Defense) members at Incirlik and throughout Turkey, resulting in over 25,000 vaccinations," he continued. "Not one has resulted in significant adverse effects."

The FDA has licensed the product for use, said Dr. William Winkenwerder, the assistant secretary of defense for health affairs.

"We follow FDA regulations scrupulously in the use of the anthrax vaccine and all medically regulated products," he said.

Dr. Winkenwerder said the decision was out of step with current scientific studies and force protection measures.

The doctor said about 1 million American servicemembers received the vaccinations

since the program started in 1998 and some 650,000 service members received the six-shot series since June 2002. Of that number, only around 10 refused the shots.

"Most people realize and appreciate the threat we face and are persuaded by the scientific evidence regarding the safety and effectiveness of the vaccine," Dr. Winkenwerder said.

"Anthrax is without a doubt the No. 1 biological weapon threat out there," Dr. Matthews said. "My personal opinion is that this ban will be short-lived." (*Jim Garamone, American Forces Press Service, contributed to this article*)

Incirlik responds to Anthrax halt

By Staff Sgt. Elaine Aviles
39th Air Base Group Public Affairs

With the Anthrax Vaccine Immunization Program at a temporary standstill, Incirlik people should not stop by the immunizations clinic for Anthrax shots.

The clinic will retain everyone's records so, once the program resumes, people who already started the shot series can simply resume where they left off.

The dosage schedule is to take the first three shots three weeks apart, then at six, 12 and 18 months. After the initial series, there is an annual booster. While people should not normally decrease the time between shots, it's not a problem to fall behind.

"You can be three months or three years overdue and it won't make a difference in the effectiveness of the vaccine," said Maj. (Dr.) W.M. "Sparky" Matthews, 39th Medical Squadron chief of aeromedical services.

This is because of the vaccination's "memory."

"Once you're exposed to a foreign object, your body produces an immune response," Dr. Matthews said. "The antibody-producing immune cells stay in your body until they're stimulated again."

So, once a person receives a shot, these immune cells once again start producing antibodies against anthrax. Every shot thereafter increases the person's immunity.

The AVIP Web site likens it to walking up a staircase. The goal is to climb to the top by completing the six doses.

"You're 90 to 95 percent protected after the third vaccination," Dr. Matthews said. "The subsequent three shots are to bring you as close to 100 percent immune as possible. The boosters are just stacking the deck against anthrax infection."

This protection encompasses the three types of anthrax infection, which are inhalational, gastrointestinal and cutaneous. Inhalational enters the body via breathing, gastrointestinal from eating and cutaneous through a break in the skin.

All forms of anthrax infection can be fatal, although inhalational is by far the most deadly, Dr. Matthews said.

"The vaccine prevents the production of lethal toxin by the anthrax bacteria," he said.

"The point of entry or site of infection does not change the vaccine's action."

Without protection, anthrax exposure of any kind can kill. With protection, the person, unless exposed to exorbitant amounts of anthrax, may end up mildly ill.

"That's why, despite our current pause in anthrax vaccination, the Department of Defense, Air Force and medical officials at Incirlik remain committed to the anthrax vaccine to protect our people," Dr. Matthews said. "Anthrax is a very real and dangerous threat. It comes down to life or death. Without vaccination, you will die if exposed. The vaccine is safe and effective. A legal decision can't change the weight of scientific fact."

For more information about anthrax, visit www.anthrax.osd.mil.



Courtesy photo

A medical technician fills a syringe with the anthrax vaccination.

FVAP urges Incirlik to vote

Deadlines to register for presidential and state primaries are as early as February for some states and Federal Voting Assistance Program people are available to help the Incirlik community get the information, addresses and post card applications needed to make their vote count.

The Federal Voting Assistance Program administers the federal responsibilities of the Secretary of Defense, under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act, modified in 2002.

The Act covers more than 6 million potential voters.

The FVAP has three distinct goals:

- Inform and educate U.S. citizens worldwide of their right to vote.

- Foster voting participation. One-third of the U.S. Senate, the entire House of Representatives, 13 state governors, the president, thousands of local races and several state referendums will be decided this year.

- Protect the integrity of, and enhance the electoral process at the federal, state, and local levels.

The program requires states and territories to allow U.S. citizens overseas to register and vote absentee or by write-in ballots in federal elections.

The Federal Post Card Application is the standard form accepted by the states and territories to simultaneously register and request an absentee ballot.

The Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot is a back-up ballot that can be used by eligible voters under three conditions. To be eligible, a citizen must: be located outside the United States, apply for regular ballot early enough so the appropriate local election official receives the request at least 30 days before the election, and the voter must not have already received the requested regular absentee ballot.

Maj. Steve Storch, 39th Operations Squadron weather flight commander, is the installation voting officer for Incirlik. Additionally, each unit has a voting counselor. Call the installation voting answering service at 6-VOTE.

The U.S. Presidential Primary season has begun and voter information is available on the Internet at www.fvap.gov. To request a Federal Post Card Application, see your unit voting representative.

For more information, call 6-6880 or contact your unit FVAP representative. (*Courtesy Incirlik Federal Voting Assistance Program*)

Incirlik wraps up CFC campaign

By Staff Sgt. Jeremy Tredway
39th Air Base Group Public Affairs

The 39th Air Base Group wrapped up its annual Combined Federal Campaign Dec. 31 after contacting 100 percent of Incirlik's eligible contributors and collecting nearly \$92,000.

"It's important to support the CFC because without your donations these organizations, many of which support military families, would not exist," said 2nd Lt. Megan Best, 39th Services Squadron lodging manager and CFC coordinator.

"Also, with 1,400 charities represented, it's almost certain one of them will touch you or someone you know within your lifetime."

The campaign allowed 30 percent of Incirlik's federal employees to donate to charities ranging from helping malnourished children to protecting rain forests, to seek-

ing homes for abandoned animals.

Additionally, the campaign also allowed people to donate to a wide range of activities at the base youth and family support centers by writing "FSYP" on their pledge cards.

The campaign was established in 1961 and is the largest workplace-charity campaign in the country.

Last year, people donated \$237 million, second only to the 2001 post-Sept. 11 campaign. On average, one in four federal employees or their families will benefit from CFC charities this year.

"Divided among eligible donors, that's a \$54 per person, compared to \$45 per person last year. That will be hard to beat next year," Lieutenant Best said. "The unit representative and key personnel deserve a hearty 'thank you' for their hard work contacting people and inspiring them to donate. They've done a great job."



Making a World of Difference



IN
BRIEF

Phone service

Telephone service can now be started, relocated, terminated or changed through the source at http://source/39cs_scmwt. For more information, call the telephone help desk at 6-6941.

BAH rates

The law limiting senior airmen and below for basic allowance for housing entitlements was repealed Jan. 1. Everyone is entitled to BAH while in a travel status between permanent duty stations, except people arriving to Incirlik from technical school. The financial services office identified people affected and those people should see the money in their paychecks no later than Jan. 15. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Daryle Moncrief, customer service NCO in charge, at 6-6306.

MPF hours change

The 39th Mission Support Squadron Military Personnel Flight now opens Mondays and Thursdays from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Tuesdays from 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Fridays from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For more information, call customer service at 6-3280.

Finance hours change

The 39th Comptroller Flight customer service section now opens Mondays through Fridays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The cashier's cage opens from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Daryle Moncrief, customer service NCO in charge, at 6-6306.

School AFTP project

Please slow down and follow signs and instructions of security forces or other safety people during school parking lot construction. The construction is part of an ongoing antiterrorism and force protection project. For more information, call Vernon Reddick, 39th Air Base Group schools liaison officer, at 6-3750 or 6-3043.

Aerovac patients

Aerovac patients must process travel vouchers immediately upon returning from receiving medical care. For more information, call the 39th Medical Squadron Resource Management Office at 6-3989 or 6-8659.

Izmir

The Mercure Hotel in Izmir is no longer under U.S. government contract. There is no longer space-available lodging available at Izmir and it remains an official-business-only location.

Teens embark in survivor challenge

By Staff Sgt. Shanda De Anda
39th Air Base Group Public Affairs

As school let out for the winter holiday break, Incirlik teens may have pondered ways to pass the time. Although finding creative ways to torture younger siblings or developing the "ultimate creation" from various foodstuffs may have been tempting options, youth services offered a nine-day event called Survivor Challenge Dec. 20 through Jan. 3 that some teens couldn't pass up.

Shrouded in mystery, the program was open to teens, ages 13 through 18 and attracted six three-man teams.

"I wanted to participate because it was something to do over the holiday and my friends were participating," said Monica Immel, 13, of the Babez team.

Each event was kept secret until children arrived for the competition. Teams were required to read a cryptic "tree mail" message, which gave the date, time and location of the next event.

The message did not reveal the event, but offered a hint by providing information about a certain item each team should bring or wear for the challenge.

Like "Survivor" the show, each "tribe" faced certain challenges, which granted winning teams immunity, and after each immunity challenge, tribal council was held. Unlike the show, teams were not voted out of the game. Teams received points for completing a challenge and lost half of their points if voted for by the tribal council.

"No tribe was voted out of the game to help keep teens busy throughout the entire vacation break," said Joann Brown, 39th Services Squadron youth center office automation clerk. "Keeping all the teams in play also helped build the suspense as to which team would be the final victor."

Each competition day, teams were faced with a new challenge. After each feat, the three teams who performed the best received points.

Day one: teams embarked in a tribal challenge in which teams had to accomplish instructions written on a scroll, including the creation of a tribal flag and selection of a team leader.

Day two: tribal challenges continued with a "see no evil, hear no evil, speak no evil" event that required the team to collect three flags by having the 'speak no evil' person give nonverbal directions to the 'hear no evil' person who then shouted them to the



Photo by Senior Airman James Seymore
Elizabeth Robinson, 13, eats a concoction of Jello and pickles as a penalty for getting a trivia question wrong in the youth center's survivor challenge.

blindfolded 'see no evil' person who took the action to retrieve the flags.

During day three's immunity challenge two people per team were given two minutes to toss cheese balls at the third team members' face, which was smeared with whipped cream. The team that was able to get the most cheese balls to stick won.

Day four greeted teams with dizzy basketball as the tribal challenge, and a "pamper your plate" contest for immunity. For the tribal challenge, teams who made the most baskets after a dizzying spin on a baseball mat and dribbling the basketball to the basket won. Nine disposable diapers were smeared with a different melted candy bar and immunity was granted to the team that identified the most candy bars.

Day five's tribal challenge was an M&M toss in which two people tossed candies in the third person's mouth and whomever caught the most candies won.

Day six's immunity challenge was a board eliminator in which teams maneuvered across a 6' by 6' board and strategized how to lock out other teams. The tribal challenge for day seven was a treasure hunt.

Day eight offered a "You want me to eat what?" tribal challenge, and marshmallow blowing for immunity. The challenge involved a nine-question quiz. The penalty for

wrong answers was rolling dice and having to eat the corresponding food concoction. For immunity, teams who blew mini-marshmallows the farthest out of their nose won.

The first eight days of competition helped teams prepare for, the final challenge, which consisted of nine timed mini-challenges. At the completion of each challenge teams received a puzzle piece. The challenges were: escape from skate park, pig (basketball challenge to make a basket from three locations), sports trivia (correct answers awarded with a large plastic cup, incorrect answers awarded with tiny bathroom cups to use in next challenge), a relay race to fill a bucket with water, locate a book at the library, movie trivia (incorrect answers penalized by team having to consume a soda, bag of popcorn, candy bar before being allowed to continue), 60-second song and dance rendition of "Who Let the Dogs Out" and putting the puzzle pieces together.

"The final challenge was videotaped and, in true Survivor fashion, we also decided to seal the final times in an envelope and not announce the results until the youth center director returns," Ms. Brown said. "A Survivor Challenge party will be held at which time the videos will be played, winners will be announced and prizes will be distributed."

The first place tribe will receive their choice of a trip to Teen Ropes Camp in Germany or a gift certificate from the base exchange. Second and third place winners will also receive BX gift certificates incrementally reflective of position placed.

"I would like to do something like this again, because it was a lot of fun and it was competitive, and I'm competitive," said Travis Kunder, 13, of the Short Manziz's team.

Ms. Immel agreed, adding, "it was fun to see how well the mind and physical activity were tested. I also learned how much team work has to with life and how important it is for all of the team to work together, without arguing the whole time."

Teams were: Short Manziz's: Gage Aycock, Michael Orlando and Travis Kunder; Delta Force: Blake Wright, Adrian Hernandez and Darrin Wolters; S-Unit: Josh Sloan, Justin Hoppe and Mark Boyd; Breezes: Kristoff Bannies, Charmaine Mims and Brittany Hurdle; Babez: Elizabeth Robinson, Holland Lewis and Monica Immel; and Zack's Team: Eda Smith, Alex Brown and Zack Brown.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Joseph Thompson

Rugby 101

(Left to right) David Ware attempts to tackle David Depiazza, 39th Communications Squadron project officer, during rugby practice. The fitness center sponsors rugby lessons Sundays at 4:30 p.m. and Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. at the high school football field, weather permitting. Rugby is a combination of soccer and football in which play is continuous without time-outs or substitutions, interference and forward passing are not permitted, and kicking, dribbling, lateral passing, and tackling are featured. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Tiffani Johnson, fitness center sports director, at 6-6086.



Mandatory PT evaluation — There is a mandatory physical fitness test Jan. 23 for U.S. military people. People on leave, TDY or a profile, or required for minimal manning are excused. The evaluation includes a 1.5-mile run, crunches, push-ups and waist measurements. Unit fitness program monitors will distribute pre-test screening forms to people. Once they receive completed forms back, people who require them will be notified to accomplish a medical screening prior to the Jan. 23 evaluation. This evaluation is recorded for people who are enrolled in the weight management program, self-directed fitness improvement program or monitored fitness improvement program, overdue for cycle ergometry or has a January birthday. For more information, contact a unit fitness program monitor.

5K run or walk — The fitness center sponsors a 5K run or walk Jan. 17 at 8 a.m. at Arkadas Park. For more information, call 6-6086.

Rider's club — People can keep a fitness center record of the miles they ride on a bike or stationary bike and qualify to win the following prizes: 1,000 miles — T-shirt and 1,500 miles — windbreaker. Rider's have a year to complete the program. For more information, call 6-6086.

Bowling tournament — The Magic Carpet Bowling Center sponsors a Martin Luther King Couples Tournament Jan. 17 at 6 p.m. Winners receive a dinner for two at the club. For more information, call 6-6789.

Trotter's & strider's club — People can keep a fitness center record of the miles they walk or run and qualify to win the following prizes: 500 miles — T-shirt and 1,000 miles — windbreaker. Participants have a year to complete the program. For more information, call 6-6086.

Circuit training — The fitness center sponsors circuit training classes Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. in

the fitness center. For more information, call 6-6086.

Fitness center orientations — The fitness center staff offers orientations of workout equipment to help people maximize their use of the center. For more information, call 6-6086.

Taekwondo — The fitness center sponsors Taekwondo classes Tuesdays and Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. Taekwondo is a traditional Korean Art emphasizing self-defense attack. For more information, call at 6-6086.

Skeet and trap shooting — The outdoor recreation center offers skeet and trap shooting Tuesdays through Fridays by appointment. Open shooting begins Saturdays at 9 a.m. Cost is \$10 and includes shells and clays. For more information, call 6-6044.

Push ups & sit ups — People get rewards for matching their sit-ups with their push-ups (for example 25 push-ups and 25 sit-ups). There are six categories to qualify to win a T-shirt: 25, 30, 35, 45, 55 and 75. For each amount accomplished in this program participants earn a T-shirt. For more information, call the fitness center at 6-6086.

ACTION
LINE

Col. Bill MacLure
39th Air Base Group commander

The action line program provides an avenue for the Incirlik community to voice their concerns, complaints and opinions to Col. Bill MacLure, 39th Air Base Group commander.

The program should only be used after you've tried resolving the issue through your chain of command.

People can submit an action line by e-mailing action.line@incirlik.af.mil or calling the 39th Air Base Group Public Affairs Office at 6-6060.

Questions and responses may be printed in the *Tip of the Sword*.

Parental involvement increases children's chance for success

By Barbara Worden

*U.S. Air Forces in Europe
School Liaison Office*

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany (USAFENS) — Although most parents know their daily actions at home play a very important role in their children's education, there are other avenues in which they may be more actively involved.

The Internet, and its vast array of information, is a great source for parents to expand their knowledge on ways to get involved in their child's education. Two particular Internet sites that parents may find beneficial are the Military Child Education Coalition and the National Parent Teacher Associate Web sites.

The MCEC Coalition and their corresponding Web site, focuses on improving the life of the military child. The site has links to aid parents and students on their voyage through elementary and secondary school systems. A link on this site is "Mili-

tary Organizations Devoted to the Military Family." Other links provide information on scholarship and university programs, enrichment and on-line home study programs. The site can be found at: <http://www.militarychild.org>.

The National PTA Web site also has articles designed to promote parental involvement. By accessing the site and clicking on the "parent involvement" tab at the top of the page, parents can find information to assist them in helping their child succeed. The Web address is: <http://www.pta.org>. Individuals are not required to be a member of the PTA organization to gain access to or benefit from the site.

By investing time in a child's education today, parents can increase their child's chances for success in school and for attaining a brighter tomorrow.

If you are a parent, guardian, or just interested in becoming involved in the education of U.S. Air Forces in Europe children, contact your school liaison office.

Intangibles make world of difference

By Master Sgt. Trae King

39th Mission Support Squadron

You can't imagine the horror I felt Dec. 16 when I received a call at 4 p.m. saying I needed to get home because my house was on fire. As I hung up the receiver and rushed out of the building, I could hear fire truck sirens coming from every direction.

My heart was beating fast as I raced from Building 833 to Falcon Housing. I could only think of the worst-case scenario — my home was completely destroyed or even worse, my 14-year-old daughter was hurt.

As I turned the corner, I saw fire trucks, police cars, an ambulance and people standing around. Feverishly, I drove through the traffic to reach my home. When I arrived, I saw smoke coming out of the front door and all the windows. My heart dropped until I saw my daughter standing at the neighbor's house covered with soot, but physically unharmed.

After the fire department extinguished the fire, I was allowed to go into the house to see the damage. The stove, surrounding cabinets and appliances were completely destroyed. Black smoke filled the house, covering most of my furniture, carpets, walls and clothes. Distraught by the damages and potential cost of the repairs, I wondered how I could get my home back in order.

Nine days before Christmas, I found myself living at the Hodja Inn and my house in shambles.

This is where my Air Force family made the difference.

As a prior career adviser, I know numerous factors play into an

airman's decision to stay or separate from the military. As an 18-year career airman, I realize now that it's not always benefits that motivate people to re-enlist. Air Force intangibles are equally as important and play a big part in our decision.

Within hours, my Air Force family was already coming up with a plan to help my daughter and I restore normalcy in our lives. I received numerous calls from people who wanted to lend a hand, financial assistance, words of encouragement or simply a prayer.

A young airman in my unit took it upon herself to get a card and have others sign and make donations to replace some of my damaged items. This act of kindness and concern floored me.

In addition, my supervisor (a first lieutenant) and my flight commander (a captain) came by dressed in sweats, grabbed some buckets, rags and scrub brushes, and removed some soot from the walls. No big deal you say? Well it was, especially since the captain was scheduled to be at a Christmas party that evening and my supervisor's husband had just returned from a three-month TDY. Everyone in my unit, along with others in the 39th Civil Engineer Squadron played a part and helped me get my home restored and back in order.

Friends and people in the community offered assistance and/or provided gifts to restore items lost due to the fire.

Christmas Day, just nine days after the fire, I was able to move back into my home. No benefit the Air Force offers could match the love my Air Force family displayed to me. My co-workers and friends here showed me that people are truly the Air Force's No. 1 asset.

“No benefit the Air Force offers could match the love my Air Force family displayed to me.”



Photo by Staff Sgt. Jeremy Tredway

A Turkish vendor sells salep on a street corner in Adana.

Natural remedy

Question: The other night I was in Adana with a Turkish friend. While we were walking, my friend stopped by a shop and ordered a hot, thick drink called salep. I was hesitant at first, but I liked it after I tried it. What is it and how is it made?

Response: Salep (or sahlep) is a comforting drink for cold winter nights. It relieves sore throats and congested chests and warms the body.

Salep has been around in this country for centuries. Ibn-I Sina, the great Turkish physician, claimed salep was an aphrodisiac, an appetite and saliva enhancer, had paralysis preventative qualities, and even said the drug might determine the sex of an unborn child.

Some people believe that if a pregnant mother drinks salep she is more likely to have a boy.

Salep is made of pulverized roots from certain Turkish orchids. The newly picked roots are washed and boiled in water or ayran, a yogurt and water mixture. If the roots are not boiled, enzymatic action within them give rise to an orchid.

The roots are dried on kilims, flat woven Turkish carpets, under the sun and then ground. This procedure is handed down from generation to generation.

In winter, the dried, ground roots are boiled with water and served hot. Cinnamon is added before serving.

Turkey exports salep to Syria, Greece, Jordan, Israel and Saudi Arabia.

You can get salep from street vendors, who store it in huge brass containers built into their push-carts. You can also buy salep in spice shops and prepare your own drink.

ASK

MEHMET



By **Mehmet Birbiri**, Host Nation Adviser

Traffic fines increase

Turkish officials increased traffic fines 29.5 percent for 2004. The minimum fine starts at 41 million Turkish Lira. Last year, traffic policemen issued 4.9 million fines throughout Turkey, resulting in 270 billion TL.

The most common fines were issued for speeding, not wearing seat belts and driving with an expired inspection.

The 2004 traffic fine rates are:

- ♦ Speeding – 83 million TL
- ♦ Running a red light – 83 million TL
- ♦ Not wearing seat belts – 41 million TL
- ♦ Talking on cell phone while driving – 41 million TL
- ♦ Disregarding traffic signs – 41 million TL
- ♦ Driving without a driver's license – 169 million TL
- ♦ Illegal parking – 41 million TL
- ♦ Driving while intoxicated – 340 million TL
- ♦ Driving under the influence of illegal drugs – 684 million TL

Traffic fines can be paid to the traffic police issuing the fine or through a bank. You can take the traffic slip to any bank in Turkey and pay the fine. Traffic fines should be paid within 10 days. Fines are doubled after the first 10 days and tripled after the second 10 days.

2004 Turkish holidays

- ♦ Jan. 31 to Feb. 4 - Feast of Sacrifice
- ♦ April 23 - National Sovereignty and Children's Day
- ♦ May 19 - Sports and Youth Day
- ♦ Aug. 30 - Victory Day
- ♦ Oct. 28 to 29 - Republic Day
- ♦ Nov. 13 to 16 - Ramazan Festival

Nov. 10 is Atatürk's Memorial Day. Ceremonies are held throughout the country, but it is not a holiday.

Holidays are observed on the same calendar days even if they fall on Saturdays or Sundays. The dates of the national holidays never change, but the dates of the religious holidays move about 10 days earlier from one year to the next since they are determined according to lunar calendar, which is 10 to 11 days shorter than the regular calendar.

In Turkish

tatil - holiday
(tah-til)

ceza - fine, penalty
(geh-zah)



Friday

Story hour – The library offers a preschool children's story hour Fridays from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. The hour includes a story, interactive craft and snacks. For more information, call 6-6759.

Movie and nacho night – Youth services sponsors a movie and nacho night from 6 to 9 p.m. for 6- to 12-year-olds. Cost is \$2 for members and \$3 for nonmembers. For more information, call 6-6670.

Saturday

Family craft day – The skills development center sponsors a family craft day from noon to 4 p.m. For more information, call 6-3858.

Tuesday

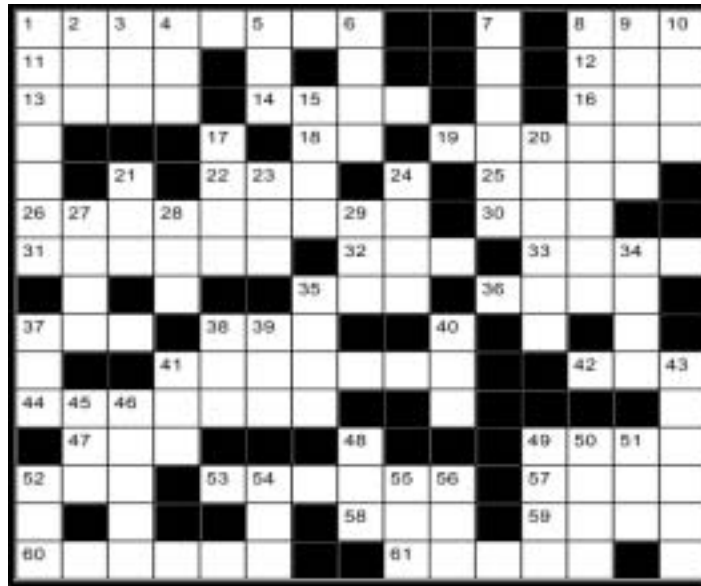
Project CHEER bingo night – The consolidated club complex offers a Project CHEER bingo night from 6 to 9 p.m. For more information, call 6-6966.

Upcoming

Criminal justice course – People can register for Central Texas College's "Crime in America" course, which runs from Jan. 19 to March 12. Registration ends Jan. 16. For more information, call 6-3211.

Hip hop dance contest – Teens are invited to compete for best solo dancer and dance group during a hip hop dance contest Jan. 16 at 7:30 p.m. at Time Out. Teens may bring their own CDs, but the music adhere to youth center guidelines. For more information, call 6-6670.

Scrapbooking Madness – The skills development center offers a scrapbooking madness class Jan. 16 from 6 p.m. to midnight. Cost is \$5. Materials aren't included. For more information, call 6-3858.



Hometown USAF (Vol. 1)

By 1st Lt. Tony Wickman
Alaskan Command Public Affairs

ACROSS

1. Texas AFB home to 37th TW; aircraft tail marking of LD
8. Hit
11. Church altar
12. Bar drink
13. German for no
14. Road tax?
16. Elevated part of the Earth (abbrev.)
18. Postal abbrev. for state home to 436th AW
19. Automotive maker
22. Former 70-80s band (abbrev.)
25. Dampens
26. South Dakota AFB home to 28th BW; a/c tail marking of EL
30. Lemon drink
31. Japan AB home to 374th AW; a/c tail marking of YJ
32. Head cover
33. Immerses
35. Cat call
36. Late night host
37. Zodiac sign
38. Meaning three
41. Conductor
42. Pod vegetable
44. California AFB home to 412th TW; a/c tail marking of ED
47. Age
49. Actress Laura of *Jurassic Park*
52. Babylonian measure of length
53. California AFB; home to 60th AMW
57. Snack food
58. *Lord of the Rings* character
59. Impress letter/design on a book cover

60. Nebraska AFB home to 55 WG; a/c tail marking of OF
61. Texas AFB home to 7th BW; a/c tail marking of DY

DOWN

1. Virginia AFB home to 1FW; a/c tail marking of FF
2. Mock
3. CBS show
4. Barbie's mate
5. Model Carol
6. Fmr. Kansas senator
7. Japan AB home to 35th FW; a/c tail marking of WW
8. Germany AB home to 86th AW; a/c tail marking of RS
9. Oklahoma AFB home to 97th AMW
10. Actor Sean
15. Smell
17. Former Speaker of the House Gingrich
20. RAF marshal in North Africa (1941-43)
21. Largest member of deer family
23. Military appreciation paperwork (abbrev.)
24. South Carolina AFB home to 20th FW; a/c tail marking of SW
27. Ancient history
28. Roman sun god
29. Article
34. North Carolina AFB home to 23rd FG; a/c tail marking of FT
35. Little lady
37. Virginia Army fort
38. Road material
39. Color in light spectrum between orange and infrared
40. Male offspring
41. Homo sapien
43. Tennessee AFB home to AEDC
45. NBA coach ____ Harris
46. *Who's Afraid of Virginia ____*
48. Street equivalent (abbrev.)
49. Spots
50. Greek god of love
51. Truck manufacturer
52. Former name for Tokyo
54. Fink
55. State home to 181st FW; aircraft tail marking TH (abbrev.)
56. Pig's pen

The solution will be published in the next issue.

Framing classes – The skills development center offers instructional framing classes Jan. 17 and 31 at 10:30 a.m. Cost is \$25 plus materials. For more information, call 6-3858.

Martin Luther King Jr. exhibit – People can learn about Martin Luther King Jr. at an exhibit Jan. 19 from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the community center. The exhibit is free. Refreshments will be served. For more information, call 6-6966.

Book club – The library book club meets Jan. 20 at 7 p.m. to discuss "Their Eyes were Watching God," by Zora Neale Hurston. For more information, call 6-6759.

Project CHEER chess tourney – The community center offers a Project CHEER chess tournament Jan. 29 from 4 to 6 p.m. Cost is \$2. Winner takes the cash. For more information, call 6-6966.

Super Bowl party – The consoli-

dated club complex sponsors a Super Bowl party Feb. 1 at 9 p.m. at the ballroom. Kick off is 1:17 a.m. Cost is \$5 for club members and \$7 for non members. Price includes snacks, breakfast buffet and a commemorative coin. For more information, call 6-6101.

Valentine's Day dinner – The consolidated club complex offers a Valentine's Day "Dinner for Lovers" Feb. 14 at 6 and 7:30 p.m. Cost is \$29.95 per couple or \$14.95 for singles. Price includes a dinner buffet, complimentary wine and champagne bar and roses for women. For more information or to make a reservation, call 6-6101. Reservations will be accepted starting Jan. 20 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Ongoing

Music lessons – The community center offers guitar and piano lessons. Lessons are one hour and cost \$40 per month. For

more information, call 6-6966.

Cub Scout volunteers – Cub Scout Pack 345 seeks volunteers for assistant cubmaster, secretary, project coordinator and committee chairman. For more information, call 6-5472.

Volunteers needed – The military equal opportunity office seeks committee members to plan Black History Month and Women's History Month activities. For more information, call 6-6210.

Trail rides – The Country Plains Riding Club offers trail rides for nonmembers. Cost is \$15. For more information, call 6-5639.

Garage sales – People aren't authorized to post "For Sale" signs for garage sales anywhere on base except for authorized bulletin boards. Violators will be ticketed and their commander notified. For more information, call 6-6232.



SALUTES

NCO Academy

Congratulations to the following graduates from the Kisling NCO Academy, Kapaun Air Station, Germany:

Tech. Sgts. Lionel Maybin and Casey McDade, 39th Communications Squadron; Tech. Sgt. William Staves Jr., 39th Logistics Readiness Squadron; Tech. Sgt. Richard Bryant, 39th Maintenance Squadron; and Tech. Sgt. Merrick Smith, 425th Air Base Squadron

Officer promotions

The January officer promotees are:

To major: Nicole Avci, 39th Medical Squadron

To captain: Kenneth Crowe, 39th Operations Squadron; and Dennis Phillips, 39th Civil Engineer Squadron.

To first lieutenant: Ashlie Singer, 39th OS

Enlisted promotions

The January enlisted promotees are:

To master sergeant: William Courter and Vincent Palomba, 39th Civil Engineer Squadron; James Gross Jr. and John Mertens, 39th Logistics Readiness Squadron; and Alicinnee Peebles, 39th Mission Support Squadron

To technical sergeant: Scott McCann, 39th Security Forces Squadron

To staff sergeant: Taurean Bazemore and Breanna Bowlds, 425th Air Base Squadron; Shara Dongon, Kevin Grimes and James Taylor, 39th SFS; David Holman, 39th Medical Squadron; and Joshua Kersker, 39th Communications Squadron

To senior airman: Michael Dunkwu, Myrna Lopez Figueroa, David Janiszewski, Michael Sikkema and Jason Rizzitello, 39th SFS; Jason MacNeil, 39th Maintenance Squadron; and Kevin Rodgers, 39th CES.

To airman first class: Brandon Garner, 39th CS; and Kiana Stafford, 39th SFS

To airman: Nicole Banta, 39th MDS

lots of pillows, sofa sleeper has Serta mattress, rectangular coffee table and two end tables, wrought iron and wood, great designer ensemble, \$600 takes all. Call Bob at 6-5380 or 6-6856 (work).

For sale: Cherry-stained dining room set, includes large rectangle double pedestal table with built-in leaf, eight chairs, buffet (three drawers, two cabinets), a lighted hutch, very good condition, less than a year old, \$1,000 OBO for entire set. May be willing to sell separately. Call Bill or Meredith at 6-2217.

For sale: Large 8-foot by 5-foot handmade wool rug, fall colors patterned with thick stripes, very heavy, used for less than a year, Indian, not purchased in Turkey, \$90; unique stars standing lamp, two large hollow metal stars with 18 points, bulbs go inside the stars, 69-inches tall, needs 35-inch wide space, newly rewired, \$50. Small pine bedside table, one drawer with space underneath, solid pine fronts and pressed board back, 17-inches wide and 22-inches tall, \$10; six-drawer dresser, \$15; will take \$20 for both. Computer desk, hutch style, minor dings, 41-inches long, 60-inches tall, \$20. Call Kelly or Dan at 6-5790 or 6-6156.



CLASSIFIEDS

Ads are free and run for two weeks. Fax ads to 6-6492 or e-mail them to tip.sword@incirlik.af.mil. Ads must be submitted one week prior to publication. To advertise yard sales, people must first contact the 39th Services Squadron Nonappropriated Funds Office.

For sale: Four piece living room set, includes one full-size couch, one loveseat and two chairs, blue in color with chrome trim, almost new and in excellent condition, \$900 OBO; one glass-top coffee table, excellent condition, \$60. Call 6-2242.

For sale: 1995 Ford Escort LX, two-door hatchback, 64K miles, automatic transmission, new tires and battery, \$3,000 OBO. Call Tech. Sgt. Sharon Koenigstein at 6-6956 (day) or 6-2074 (night).

For sale: Queen-sized sofa sleeper and loveseat, newly reupholstered with golden fabric,

YOUR TURN



To submit a question for "Your Turn," call 6-6060 or e-mail tip.sword@incirlik.af.mil.

We asked community members, "What is your professional New Year's resolution?"

"To study and become more proficient with the many rules and regulations governing Reserve aircraft."

— Maj. Scott Duggins, deployed from 313th Airlift Squadron, McChord Air Force Base, Wash.



"To establish a better working relationship and communicate better with my peers, supervisors and host-nation employees."

— Tech. Sgt. George Barnes, 39th Security Forces Squadron



"Transition to civilian life to become a home-maker for Gracie and Heith."

— Staff Sgt. Amy Hudson, 39th Air Base Group command post, with Gracie



"I'd like to pursue officer training school."

— Airman 1st Class Myrna Figueroa, 39th SFS



"I'd like to make staff sergeant."

— Senior Airman Tonika Brown, 39th Communications Squadron



Base Pride... Mission Pride

Combat Proud focuses on improving the appearance of U.S. Air Forces in Europe bases to foster pride and productivity. People can take part by keeping their office and building grounds clean and well maintained.

Hot stuff



Photos by Airman 1st Class Joseph Thompson

(Right) Senior Airman Andrew Svoboda, AFN-Incirlik broadcaster, extinguishes a fire under the supervision of Haluk Sirt, 39th Civil Engineer Squadron fire inspector, and Inuzaffer Eskiler, 39th CES extinguisher maintenance technician. (Left) Celal Kosak, 39th CES crew chief, inspects a fire extinguisher. The fire department conducts a mandatory fire safety briefing and fire extinguisher training for housing residents Thursdays at 10 a.m., and mandatory fire safety training for babysitters, maids and gardeners Fridays at 10 a.m. For more information, call 6-3021.

AT THE MOVIES

At the Oasis

Friday

Lost in Translation (R) — Bob may be a big American star, but in Tokyo, his fame's only as good as the whiskey he sells. While in Japan, he finds a kindred spirit in Charlotte, the equally lonely wife of a successful fashion photographer. Starring Bill Murray and Scarlett Johansson. Showing at 7 p.m. (102 minutes)

Saturday

Brother Bear (G) — Kenia, a young Native American's older brother, is killed by a bear. During the young man's attempt to avenge his death by killing the bear, the Great Spirits transform the young man into the thing he detests most, a bear.



Starring Joaquin Phoenix and Jeremy Suarez. Showing at 5 p.m. (85 minutes)

Mystic River (R) — Jimmy, Dave, and Sean find themselves thrust back together by the murder of Jimmy's 19-year-old daughter. As the investigation tightens around these three friends, an ominous story unfolds that revolves around friendship, family and innocence lost too soon. Starring Sean Penn and Kevin Bacon. Showing at 7 p.m. (137 minutes)



Sunday

Beyond Borders (R) — Sarah, a sheltered American socialite meets Nick Callahan, a renegade doctor, his commitment to humanitarian efforts in war-torn nations moves her deeply. Starring Angelina Jolie and Clive Owen. Showing at 7 p.m. (102 minutes)

Thursday

Scary Movie 3 (PG-13) — Cindy has graduated from college and now works as a local television reporter. While investigating mysterious crop circles at the farm of Tom

Logan, she learns that she is "The One" and helps the President of the United States prevent an alien invasion. Starring Anna Faris and Charlie Sheen. Showing at 7 p.m. (90 minutes)



At the M1

The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King — 11 a.m., 3 p.m., 7 p.m. and 11 p.m.



Timeline — 11:30 a.m., 2 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7:15 p.m., 9:30 p.m. and 11:45 p.m.

Cold Creek Manor — 11:15 a.m., 2 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7 p.m., 9:30 p.m. and 11:45 p.m.



Once upon a time in Mexico — 11 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 4 p.m., 6:45 p.m., 9:15 p.m. and 11:30 p.m.

The Sin Eater — Noon, 2:30 p.m., 4:45 p.m., 7:15 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.

Movie information is not offered as an endorsement.